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### Specification Amendments

On page 9, at line 8 preceding the sentence beginning, "Thus, the round-trip time....", insert the following sentence:

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A1  
As used herein a "fast response operation" refers to an operation completed by a processor substantially instantaneously, i.e. the processor delay time for processing a packet being substantially less than the round-trip time for the packet between two nodes in the network.

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